

1.3 Crisis, Civil War & Reconstruction

1850-1877

What caused the Civil War?

The Mexican
War! (huh?)

Missouri Compromise, 1820



Effects of Mexican Cession

Wilmot Proviso, 1846

- Proposed ban on slavery in new lands from Mexico
- Never passed the Senate

Free-Soil Party, 1848

- “Free soil, Free speech, Free labor, Free men”
- Whigs & Democrats now must address slavery

Popular Sovereignty

- Let voters in new territories decide free or slave

California applies for (free) statehood, 1849

- Balance of power in Senate threatened

Compromise of 1850

Henry **Clay**, Daniel **Webster** & Stephen **Douglas** push a new compromise through Congress.

- ★ – California becomes a free state
 - Popular sovereignty in New Mexico & Utah
 - Slave *trade* (**NOT** slavery) abolished in Wash, D.C.
- ★ – Fugitive Slave Act
 - Texas gets \$10 mil to give some land to New Mexico

COMPROMISE OF 1850



Abolition Fever

Fugitive Slave Act angers Northerners

- No judge or jury
- Kidnappings
- Fines and prison for aiding runaways

Underground Railroad

- From the South to Canada
- Harriet Tubman, “Black Moses”

Harriet Beecher Stowe

- *Uncle Tom 's Cabin*, 1852
- Emotional portrayal of the life of a black slave
- “The little woman who started the big war”

Abolition Fever



Martin Delany

– *Blake*, 1859

“Hang up the shovel and
thee hoe-o-o-o!

I don’t care whether I work
or no!

Old master’s gone to the
slaveholder’s rest

He’s gone where they all
ought to go!”

Violence Erupts

Kansas-Nebraska Act, 1854

- Proposed by compromiser Stephen **Douglas**
- Split Nebraska Territory in two parts and allow voters to decide on slavery (**Popular sovereignty**)
- Missouri Compromise line no longer valid

“Bleeding Kansas” 1856

- Pro and Antislavery supporters flock to Kansas to vote
- Two Kansas governments petition for statehood
- Border Ruffians beat up antislavery town
- John Brown massacres proslavery settlers
- **Popular sovereignty** is not the answer

KANSAS-NEBRASKA ACT 1854



Violence Spreads to Congress



Brooks-Sumner Incident

Political Realignment

Whigs (federal power) lose support

- Supporters angry about compromises
- Join Republicans and “Know-Nothings”

Democrats (states’ rights) divide over slavery

- Northern Democrats v. Southern Democrats

“Know-Nothings” (nativism)

- Anti-immigration candidates take votes in North

Republican Party forms

- Direct opposition to slavery

“I am not a Know-Nothing. How could I be? How can anyone who abhors the oppression of Negroes be in favor of degrading classes of white people?

Our progress in degeneracy appears to me pretty rapid, as a nation we began by declaring ‘all men are created equal.’ We now practically read it, ‘all men are created equal, except Negroes.’ When the Know-Nothings get control, it will read ‘all men are created equal, except Negroes, and foreigners, and Catholics.’

When it comes to this I should prefer emigrating to some country where they make no pretense of loving liberty-to Russia, for example, where despotism can be taken pure and without the base alloy of hypocrisy.”

- Abraham Lincoln on the “Know Nothing” party

Court Sides With the South

Dred Scott v. Sanford (1857)

1. Black people are not citizens and cannot sue in court
2. Congress cannot prohibit slavery due to property rights
3. Overturns **Missouri Compromise** and any other federal law banning slavery



Lincoln-Douglas Debates

Illinois Senate Race, 1858

Abraham Lincoln

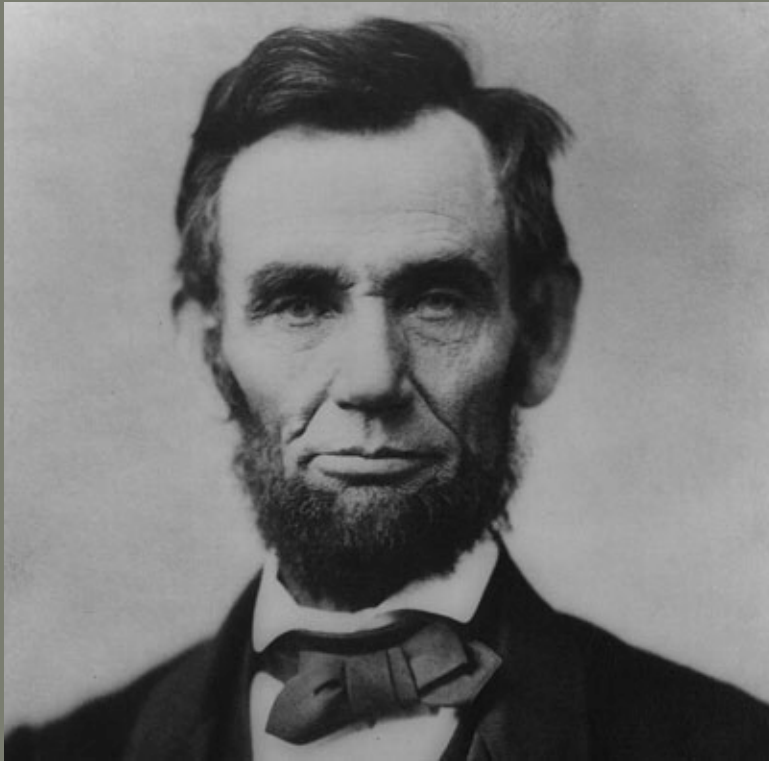
- Republican, antislavery
- If the Dred Scott case overturns laws banning slavery, then how can popular sovereignty ban slavery?

Stephen Douglas

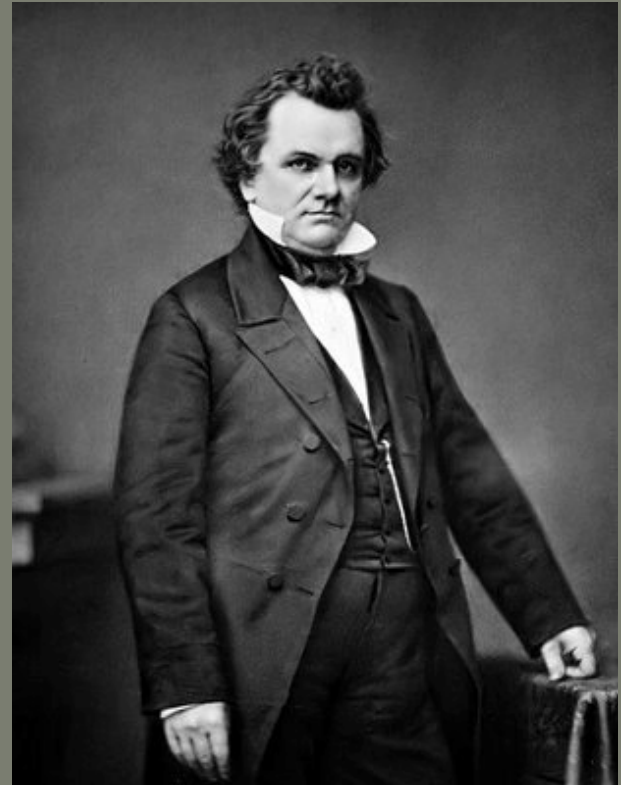
- Democrat, popular sovereignty
- **Freeport Doctrine:** Voters have to pass laws for there to be slavery in a territory. No laws, no slavery, that is how they can “vote” against it.

Impact: Douglas’ compromise lost Southern Democrat support and Lincoln became famous.

Review: The Great Debaters



A: Lincoln



B: Douglas

Signs of War



John Steuart Curry, *Tragic Prelude*, 1938-1940

John Brown's Raid

Brown hopes to inspire a national revolution against slavery.

He leads 21 men in an attempt to capture a federal arsenal in Harper's Ferry, Virginia.

The attack fails. Brown is captured & hanged.

John Brown becomes a martyr for the antislavery movement.



Thomas Hovdenden, *The Last Moments of John Brown*, 1884

Election of 1860

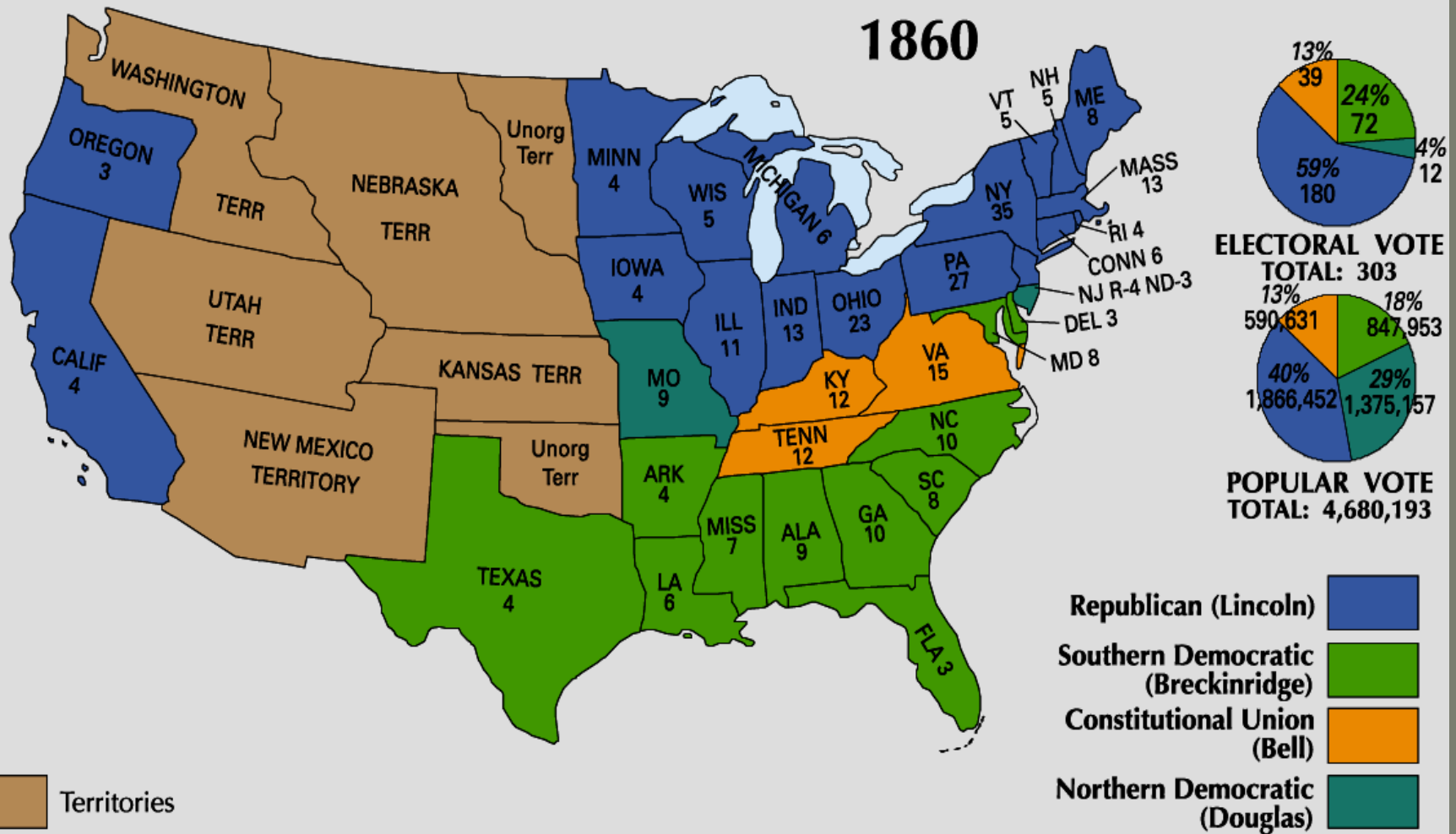
Election Topics

- John Brown's raid and execution
- Will Kansas be free or slave?
- *Dred Scott* decision
- Fugitive Slave Act
- Secession
- Weak presidents during 1850s
 - Fillmore, Pierce, Buchanan

Abraham Lincoln wins

- 40% popular; 60% electoral; 0 southern electoral
- South Carolina secedes.

Election of 1860



Secession and War

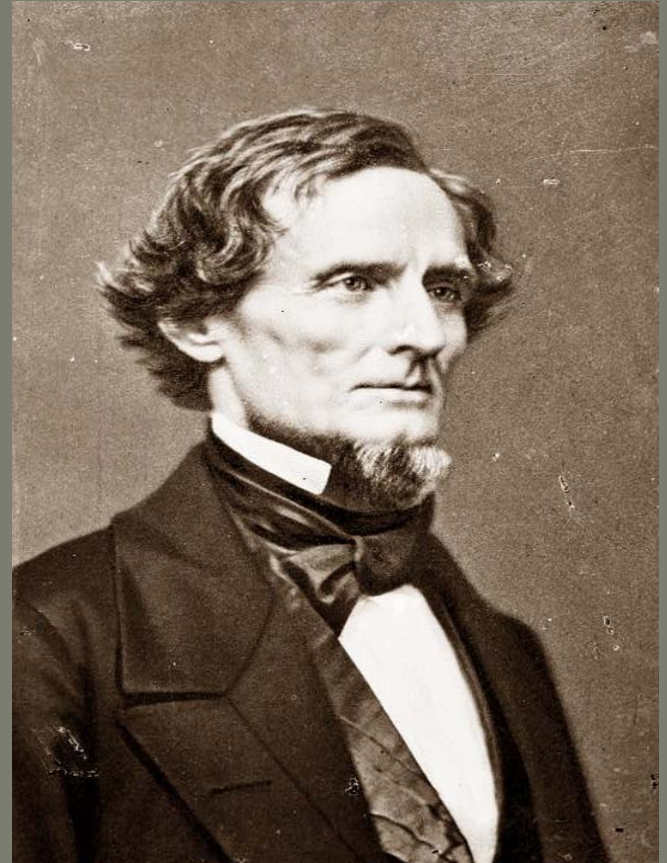
Confederate States of America

- SC, MS, AL, GA, FL, LA, TX
- States' rights & slavery protected
- Jefferson Davis President

Lincoln Inaugural Address

Shots fired at Fort Sumter, SC

- April 12, 1861
- VA, NC, AR, TN join Confederacy



The Union and the Confederacy



Preparations for War

North's Resources

- Population
- Industry (Supplies)
- Railroad
- Wheat
- Ships
- Talented leaders
 - Abraham Lincoln
 - George B. McClellan
 - Ulysses S. Grant

North's Strategy

- Anaconda Plan
- Total war (later)

South's Resources

- Cotton production
- Psychological (worth dying for)
- Military leaders
 - Robert E. Lee
 - Stonewall Jackson
- Defensive war (familiar territory)

South's Strategy

- Get Britain & France
- Erode Union's will over time

Civil War Songs

“Dixie”

- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dixie_%28song%29

“John Brown’s Body”

- <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/brown/sfeature/song.html>

“Battle Hymn of the Republic”

- <http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/b/h/bhymnotr.htm>

Military Turning Points

EVENT	DATE	OUTCOME	IMPACT
Battle of Bull Run	1861	No surrender	Long War?
Antietam (an-TEE-tum)	1862	Bloodiest Day of War	Emancipation Proclamation
Vicksburg	1863	Union victory	Union takes MS river
Gettysburg	1863	Union victory	South on defensive
March to the Sea	1864	Total war across South	Broke Southern will
Appomatox Courthouse	April 9, 1865	Lee surrenders	War Over

Political Turning Points

Emancipation Proclamation, 1862

- Freed slaves in rebel states

Lincoln suspends the writ of habeas corpus

- Confederacy supporters jailed
- Maryland votes to stay Union

Draft unpopular. Northern Democrats “**copperheads**” undermine war support.

Gettysburg Address, 1863

- Redefined the Civil War as a fight for a “new birth of freedom”



“Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not hallow -- this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”

- Abraham Lincoln's [Gettysburg Address](#), 1863

54th Massachusetts Regiment



Impacts of the War

Political & Economic

- Complete Northern control of Congress
- Homestead Act encouraged non-slavery settlement in West
- Union-Pacific Railway put transcontinental RR in North
- Tariffs raised
- Single currency, war bonds, income tax
- Lincoln re-elected
- South politically, socially, and economically devastated
- **Federal over State Power!!!**



Plans for Reconstruction

Three Major Problems After the War:

1. Return the South to the Union
2. Rebuild Southern economy
3. Promote rights of former slaves



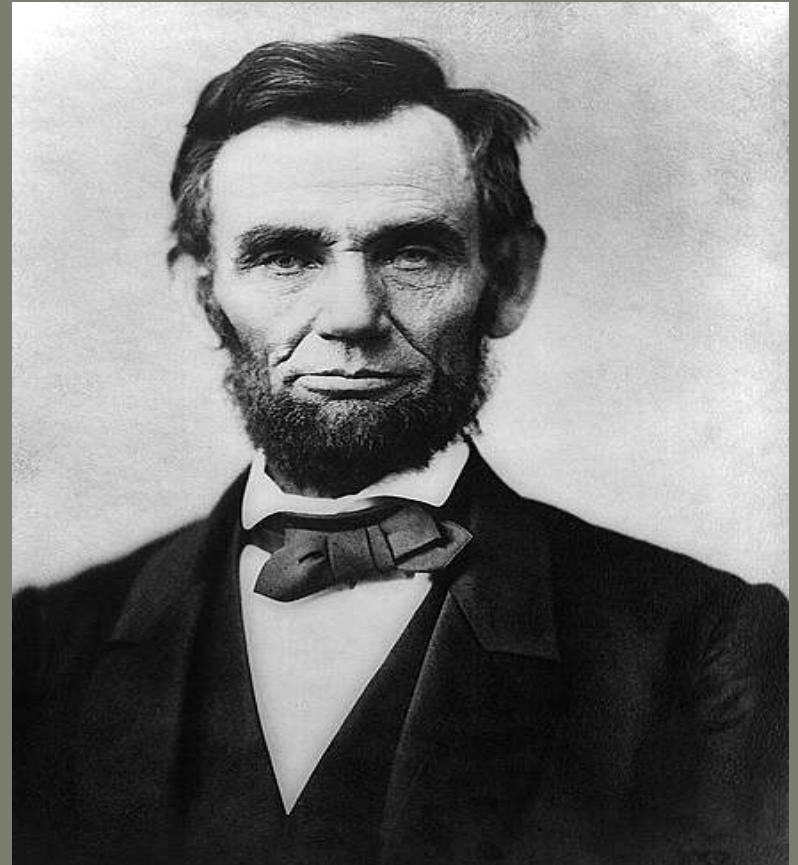
Construct - To build

Reconstruct - To rebuild

Reconstruction - To rebuild the South

Lincoln's "Ten Percent" Plan

- Ten percent of voters take a loyalty oath, state gets back in
- State must ratify 13th Amendment to abolish slavery
- Main goal: Put Union back together

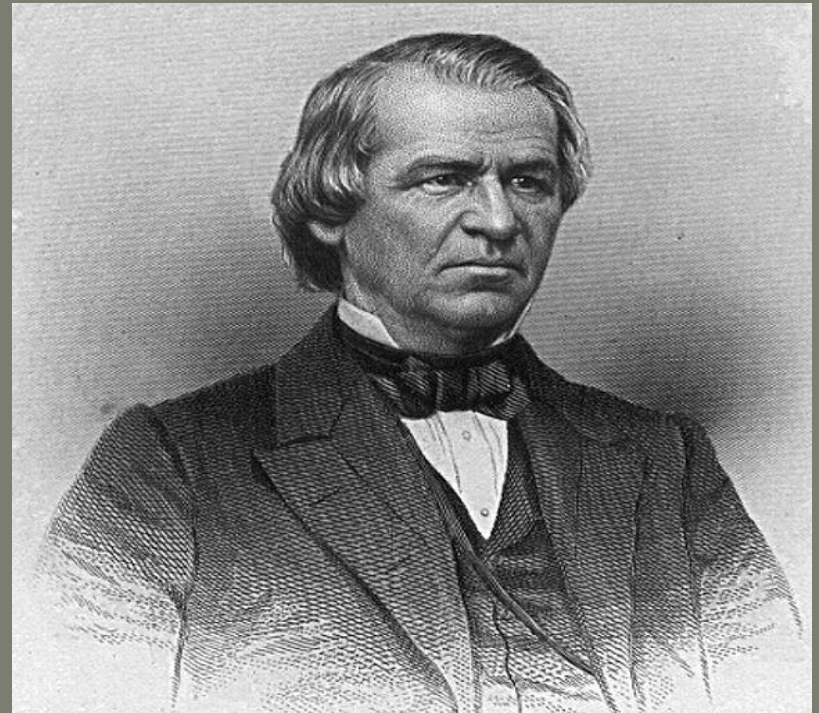


Assassinated April 14, 1865

“Presidential” Reconstruction

President Johnson wants to be lenient with the South

- Ten percent oath
- Pardon Confederate officers
- Restore land to owners
- Ratify 13th Amendment
- States’ rights
- Black freedoms limited
- “Government for white men”



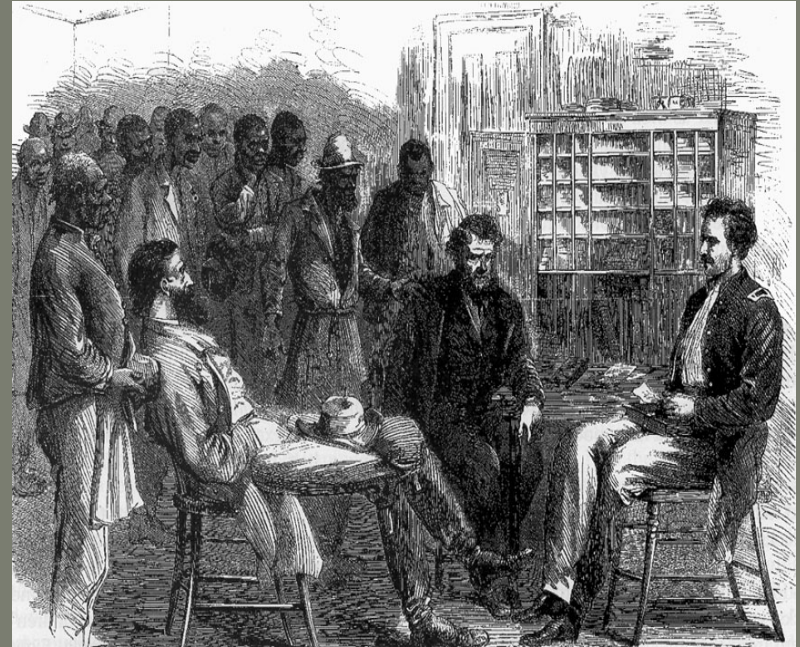
“Congressional” Reconstruction

Radical Republicans control Congress

- South has committed crimes of slavery and war and should be punished
- Compensation and equality should be guaranteed for freed men

Freedmen’s Bureau is set up

- Provide aid
- Reunite families
- Help men find work and negotiate contracts
- Legal representation in court



“Congressional” Reconstruction

Black Codes

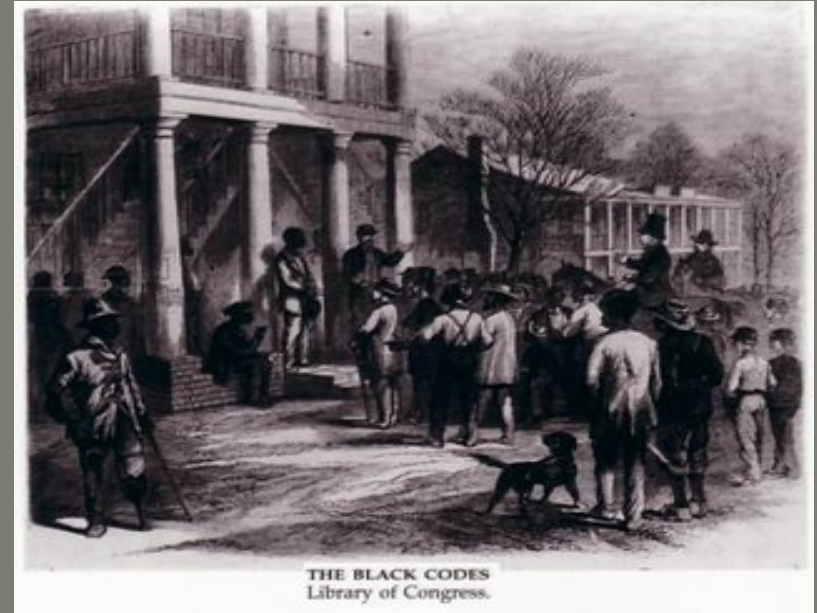
- Limited occupations
- Prohibited land ownership
- Vagrancy laws
- Violence & intimidation

Civil Rights Act of 1866

- Passed to guarantee citizenship rights and outlaw black codes
- Johnson vetos

14th Amendment

- Ratified to guarantee equal protection
- Same laws apply to everyone



Military Reconstruction

- South divided into 5 districts
- Each district governed by a Union general with troops
- White southerners resented the military occupation

President v. Congress

Johnson tried to fire his Secretary of War, Edwin Stanton, to challenge the limitations Congress put on Presidential power.

Congress claimed this violated the **Tenure of Office Act** that limited the president's right to hire and fire officials without approval.

Congress voted to impeach Johnson, but Senate disagreed by one vote.

Building Black Communities

- Family
- Jobs
- Education
- Churches
 - Functioned as schools, community centers, employment agencies, rallies, leaders



White Resentment Builds

African Americans immediately vote, buy property, start businesses, become leaders and politicians.

Whites move quickly to segregate public schools.

Blacks in office are accused of bribery and corruption.

White southerners blame “scalawags” and “carpetbaggers” for changes and conditions in the South.



The Violent Backlash

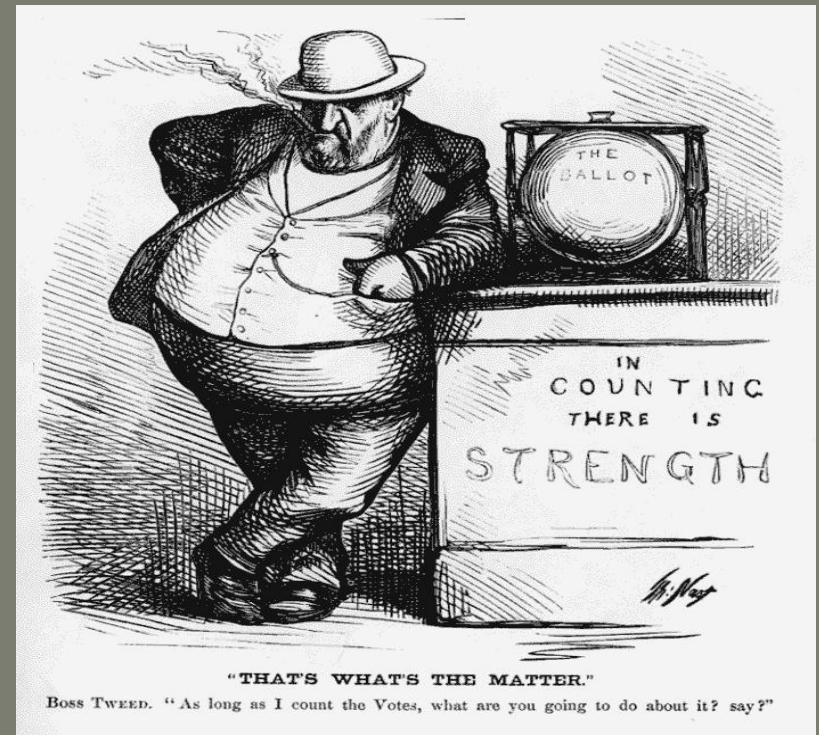
- Economic competition
 - Uncertainty about jobs
 - Resentment of federal troops
 - Ku Klux Klan
-
- Enforcement Acts try unsuccessfully to enforce civil rights.
 - 15th Amendment specifically protects the right to vote.



The End of Reconstruction

Reasons:

1. Other issues in North
 - Immigration
 - City politics & corruption
 - Recession
2. Costs of Reconstruction
3. Abolitionist fever fades
4. Racism
5. Supreme Court rulings
 - Federal government cannot define civil rights for states
 - Federal government cannot prosecute individuals who violate civil rights, only states



The End of Reconstruction

Reasons:

6. Southerners agree to voting rights
7. Southern governments ostracize radical Confederate supporters
8. President Grant is dealing with corruption scandals
9. Segregation is accepted

Compromise of 1877

- Rutherford Hayes (Republican) wins the election tie for president
- He promises to withdraw troops
- Ends federal protection of civil rights until 1957.



National Parties Emerge

Republicans

- Northern Interests
- Big Business
- Federal Power

Democrats

- Southern Interests
- Factory Workers
- States' Rights



To be continued...